Abstract

Pharmaceutical companies and health agencies within the U.S. government assure medical consumers that vaccines are safe and the benefits far outweigh the risks. Yet the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) receives 11,000 reports of serious adverse reactions, including death, to vaccines annually. The FDA estimates that less than 10% of serious adverse events are reported. Grieving parents of otherwise healthy children who have died from unexplainable causes following mandatory vaccinations have rallied together forming advocacy groups questioning the safety of vaccines. In recent years the components of vaccines, some of which are known to be carcinogens and neurotoxins, and their unknown long-term effects on children, have many wondering if vaccines may be a contributing factor to the increase in chronic childhood illnesses. This review of the literature investigates the possible relationship between the increasing number of childhood vaccines and concomitant increase in incidence of insulin dependent diabetes mellitus in children throughout the world. The biological mechanisms involved in the human immune system are not fully understood. While the evidence remains inconclusive to accept or reject a causal relationship, the hypothesis is plausible and warrants further investigation.

Keywords: vaccine induced reaction, Insulin Dependent Diabetes Mellitus (IDDM), type 1 diabetes mellitus in children, autoimmune disease